

first-ever fund for drinking water system improvements, providing States with \$3.6 billion, to date, in low interest loans for treatment system construction and upgrades.

Together with the new action we are taking today, these steps will ensure that our families continue to enjoy safe, clean drinking water.

### **Statement on Efforts To Toughen Child Support Enforcement**

*January 17, 2001*

Today the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released new data showing that our administration's tough child support enforcement efforts have been effective and are paying off for our children. Child support collections broke new records in 2000, collecting \$18 billion, an increase of \$10 billion since 1992. The new data today also shows that in 2000 alone, nearly 700,000 delinquent noncustodial parents were matched to more than one million financial records and that through withholding tax refunds, a record \$1.4 billion in overdue child support was collected, twice the amount collected when I took office.

Our administration's commitment to work with States to efficiently and effectively hold noncustodial parents accountable for their child support obligations has demonstrated significant improvement over the last 8 years. Today, parents who owe child support have their wages garnished, their Federal loans and passports denied, their bank accounts seized, and their tax refunds withheld. Last year alone, nearly 3.5 million delinquent noncustodial parents were located through the National Directory of New Hires posting.

In addition, Welfare to Work grants have helped States, tribes, and communities nationwide have created programs that help low income, noncustodial fathers get and keep jobs that will allow them to pay child support and provide their children emotional support. Congress just enacted my proposal to extend these grants for an additional 2 years.

Despite these tremendous gains, there is still more to do. In my FY 2001 budget, I proposed the fathers work/families win initia-

tive to help low income fathers and families work and support their children, along with needed reforms to the child support system. I urge the next administration and the 107th Congress to take action this year to promote responsible fatherhood and ensure that more child support goes directly to families.

### **Proclamation 7400—To Designate Swaziland as a Beneficiary Sub-Saharan African Country and for Other Purposes**

*January 17, 2001*

*By the President of the United States  
Of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

1. Section 506A(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)), as added by section 111(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of Public Law 106-200) (AGOA), authorizes the President to designate countries listed in section 107 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3706) as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

2. Section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)) provides special rules for certain apparel articles imported from "lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

3. Proclamation 7350 of October 2, 2000, designated certain countries listed in section 107 of the AGOA as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and identified which designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries would be considered lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA.

4. Pursuant to section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act, and having due regard for the eligibility criteria set forth therein, I have determined that it is appropriate to designate the Kingdom of Swaziland as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

5. The Kingdom of Swaziland satisfies the criteria for treatment as a lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)).